Abstract

A starter catalyst for the purification of the exhaust gases from internal combustion engines, which include palladium on aluminum oxide and of barium oxide, as well as a process for its production. The barium oxide and palladium are together deposited in a finely divided state on the supporting material aluminum oxide and the average particle size of the palladium crystallites is between 3 and 7 nm. The small crystallite size of palladium and the barium oxide likewise deposited in finely divided state on the supporting material impart to the catalyst a high activity and long-term stability to high temperature stresses.